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NEWS RELEASE

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Feb. 14, 1997

UM EXPANDS OFFERINGS, CONVENIENCE OF EDUCATIONAL LEADERSHIP DOCTORATE

MISSOULA --

Educators and other professionals throughout the West seeking executive jobs in educational leadership can earn a doctorate through The University of Montana without abandoning their jobs or relocating near UM's Missoula campus.

Designed to meet the needs of working professionals throughout the region and beyond, UM's program brings students together for three weekends per semester and two or three weeks in the summer.

A great advantage of the program, said educational leadership Associate Professor John Lundt, is that it is flexible enough to accommodate busy professionals while still providing a close-knit classroom environment in which students and teachers work closely together as a cohort.

The weekend-and-summer approach debuted last year and has proved very successful, Lundt said. Fourteen students started the program last year and are now halfway through the course work, he said, noting that the group includes professionals from Canada, Wisconsin, Idaho and Washington.

The application deadline for joining the program's second cohort is Friday, Feb. 21, and the first weekend of classes begins Friday, Feb. 28. Educators and others who would like to be considered for this year's cohort, or for a later program, should contact Jodi Moreau in the Department of Educational Leadership, (406) 243-5586; e-mail jmoreau@selway.umt.edu.

The degree program offers three emphases: technology leadership, higher education and

curriculum leadership. The technology emphasis is new this year, designed to help leaders in higher education and business work with the burgeoning technology available to maximize the effectiveness of their efforts, Lundt said.

"Our role is to make sense of the technology and to go into those areas that no machine can," he said. "We (educators) have a whole new toolbox full of tools at our disposal. It's important to learn how to use them, when to use them, and when you shouldn't."

The program prepares leaders for executive roles in colleges and universities, K-12 schools, non-profit organizations, and private business and industry.

Weekend sessions are scheduled from 7 to 10 p.m. Fridays and 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturdays, Lundt said, making it easy for far-flung participants to fly in for the weekend.

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Contact: John Lundt, (406) 243-5204.

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